

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

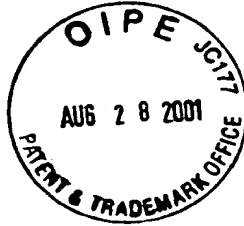
In re Patent Application of

Paolo BENEDETTI et al.

Application No.: 09/806,935

Filed: April 6, 2001

For: METHOD OF PRODUCING SEALED
PACKAGES CONTAINING POURABLE
FOOD PRODUCTS FROM A TUBE OF
PACKING MATERIAL, AND PACKING
UNIT IMPLEMENTING SUCH A
METHOD



Group Art Unit: Unassigned

Examiner: Unassigned

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure as set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicants hereby submit the following information in conformance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.98, a copy of each of the documents cited are enclosed.

U.S. Patent No. 4,606,174;
U.S. Patent No. 4,608,810;
U.S. Patent No. 4,617,779;
U.S. Patent No. 4,641,486;
U.S. Patent No. 4,646,507;
U.S. Patent No. 4,731,250;
U.S. Patent No. 4,731,978;
U.S. Patent No. 5,531,060; and
U.S. Patent No. 5,564,255.

The documents are being submitted within 3 months of the filing or entry of the national stage of this application or before the first Office Action on the merits, whichever is later, therefore no fee or certification is required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b).

RECEIVED
SEP 25 2001
TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

To assist the Examiner, the documents are listed on the attached form PTO-1449. It is respectfully requested that an Examiner initialed copy of this form be returned to the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

BURNS, DOANE, SWECKER & MATHIS, L.L.P.

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Date: August 28, 2001